DBMR Research Conference

Langhans Hörsaal Pathologie
Murtenstrasse 31, 3008 Bern

Date        April 1, 2019, 5 pm – 6 pm
Title       Sex and gender in basic and translational cardiovascular research
Speaker     Prof. Dr. med. Dr. h.c. Vera Regitz-Zagrosek
            Institute of Gender in Medicine (GiM), Center for Cardiovascular Research (CCR), Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany

Biosketch
Vera Regitz-Zagrosek is a leader in Gender Medicine in Germany and Europe. She received her medical degree from the University of Saarland, did her postdoc training at the Max-Planck-Institute for Experimental Cardiology in Bad Nauheim and at the University of Madison, Wisconsin, Dept. of Biochemistry, and her clinical training at the German Heart Centers München and Berlin and at the Free University of Berlin. Since 2003, she has been holding the only professorship in Germany on Cardiovascular Diseases in Women, and since 2007, she has been the director of the only Institute for Gender in Medicine in Germany, at Charité, University Medicine Berlin, that she founded in 2003. She also founded the Working Group on cardiovascular disease in women at the German cardiac society (DGK, 2001) and the German and International Society for Gender in Medicine (DGesGM and IGM) in 2006/7. She coordinated the Berlin site in the center of excellence “German Centre for Cardiovascular Research (DZHK)” sponsored by German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) (2011-2018). She is Task Force Leader for the Guidelines on the “Management of Cardiovascular Diseases in Pregnancy” of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC), and coordinates several european projects on Gender Medicine. In 2016, she received the honorary doctorate from the Medical University of Innsbruck, Austria. She holds a guest professorship at Medical University Utrecht (NL) and will hold the Anna Fischer Dückelmann guest professorship at the University of Zürich (Switzerland) in 2019. In 2007, she received the “Margaritha von Brentano Preis” of Free University Berlin and in 2018 she received the “Bundesverdienstkreuz” for her work in gender sensitive medicine by the president of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Abstract
Women and men, female and male animals and cells are biologically different, and acknowledgement of this fact is critical to advancing medicine. However, incorporating concepts of sex-specific analysis in basic research is largely neglected, introducing bias into translational findings, clinical concepts and drug development. Research funding agencies recently approached these issues but implementation of policy changes in the scientific community is still limited, probably due to deficits in concepts, knowledge and proper methodology. The cardiovascular (CV) field may serve as a paradigm for others, since a significant amount of knowledge how sex and estrogen determine diseases and outcomes has been accumulated. Main basic research concepts include the study of primary cell and animals of both sexes, the study of the influence of genetic versus hormonal factors and the analysis of sex chromosomes. In translational CV research we aim at including female typic acute coronary syndromes and heart failure and the role of the sociocultural dimension gender.

Prof. Dr. med. Dr. h.c. Vera Regitz-Zagrosek has been invited by Prof. Hugues Abriel, NCCR TransCure, University of Bern.

May 6, 2019
“Mechanical forces in endothelial function: exercise with moderation!”
Prof. Konstantin G. Birukov, MD, PhD, Department of Anesthesiology, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD, USA

Next DBMR Research Conference

The DBMR Research Conference takes place from 5 pm – 6 pm and will be followed by an apéro.